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A Less Flattering View of Letelier

Two preposterous letters, one by Robert Borosage and the other by John Dinges, were in your Oct. 12 edition. In the first letter, the economic recovery of Chile under Pinochet is questioned. It is a fact known widely throughout the world that Chile has made a remarkable economic recovery from near total ruin under Allende. Chile enjoys a thriving trade with the countries behind the Iron Curtian since she cannot trade with the Western nations with whom she would like to be on friendly terms.

However, both American and international banks are sufficiently impressed by Chile's recovery to have no hesitation in lending Chile money; something none of them would have dreamt of doing when Allende was pulling the country down around his ears.

The so-called "libel" charged to William Buckley's column directed at the late Orlando Letelier is nothing of the kind. Let it be stated clearly, once and for all, that Letelier was a Marxist Cuban spy working against the interests of the United States. He was paid for by money channeled to him by Beatrice Allende, daughter of the former Marxist president of Chile. Beatrice is married to a high-ranking Cuban intelligence official.

FBI files reveal numerous contacts between Letelier and Cuban intelligence officers in New York and a close working relationship with a variety of people in the United States sympathetic to various left-wing organizations and a



ORLANDO LETELIER A Marxist Cuban spy?

variety of Kremlin front organiza, tions.

Orlando Letelier did not deserve to be assassinated, but anyone who thinks that he deserves a memorial plaque at the site of his assassination here should have his head examined.

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